

At the foothills of the
Adirondack Mountains
in Central New York's
Mohawk Valley lies the
welcoming community of
Rome.

A wonderful place to
live, work and play awaits you
whether you plan to visit,
purchase a house or start
a business.

live. work. play.

R O M E New York

Welcome!

AS MAYOR OF THIS REMARKABLE CITY, AND ON BEHALF OF OUR COMMUNITY, I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU TO ROME, NEW YORK!

Whether you are a new resident or business, visiting for a short time, or someone who has lived in Rome your whole life, you will find that Rome is a welcoming community enriched with history and brimming with the opportunity to excel. Rome is the ideal location to enjoy the solitude and beauty of Upstate New York while only a short drive away from the hustle and bustle of New York City, Albany, Niagara Falls and Toronto, Canada.

Our local **MAIN STREETS ALLIANCE** is working with the **ROME AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** and our local economic development agencies to provide additional opportunities for business development and growth in our downtown corridors. The Alliance and its subcommittees are devoting countless volunteer hours to develop and achieve success with our arts and cultural corridor on **WEST DOMINICK STREET**, the Little Italy corridor on **EAST DOMINICK STREET** and the creation of a successful specialty shopping district along the **JAMES STREET** corridor.

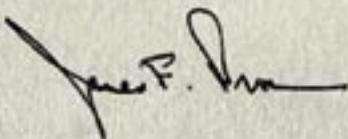
One of our many goals is to attract residents and visitors to the downtown area through special events, targeted marketing efforts and promotional activities. **BELLAMY HARBOR PARK**, our waterfront area along the historic Erie Canal, is a valuable area for recreational activities. The park provides numerous trails and a pedestrian bridge for outdoor enthusiasts, while providing a wonderful atmosphere for outdoor concerts and events such as **HONOR AMERICA DAYS** and **THE ROTARY CANALFEST**.

We are seeing continued job growth and expansion at **GRIFFISS BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY PARK** that is paving the way for a greater future for the City of Rome. Access to some of the best colleges and universities in the country affords our current working generation, as well as our younger graduates, the opportunity to learn the skills required to achieve their career goals right here at home.

The City of Rome has incredible assets that make it a unique and wonderful place to live, work, play and raise a family. Progressive schools, safe streets, a strong labor force, countless outdoor recreational activities, amazing arts and entertainment programs and an abundance of historical treasures can all be found here. The **QUALITY OF LIFE** in Rome is unmatched and offers a magnificent opportunity for continued growth and prosperity.

AGAIN, WELCOME TO ROME. WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

James F. Brown, Mayor



live. work. play. rome. ny

About Rome

HOW DO WE COMPARE?

	ROME	NATION
Home Cost Index	85%	100%
Cost of Living	86.94%	100%
Air Quality	39	33
Water Quality	89	49.2
Violent Crime	95.4	446.1
Property Crime	1777.2	4162.2
Commute Time	17.1	19.1

DEMOGRAPHICS

	RE
Population	34,950
Median Age	38.2
Females	48.8%
Males	51.2%
Households	13,653
Median Household Income	\$37,847
Effective Buying Income	\$36,336
Median 3-Bedroom House	\$80,000
Median Rent for a 2-Bedroom Apt.	\$500
Unemployment Rate	4.3%
Student/Teacher Ratio	14/1
High School Attending College	89%
High School Graduate or Higher	74%
Average First Frost	Oct 7
Average Last Frost	May 9
Average First Snow	Oct 21
Average Last Snow	April 25
Average Snowfall	110 in.

SOME MAJOR EMPLOYERS (PARTIAL LIST)

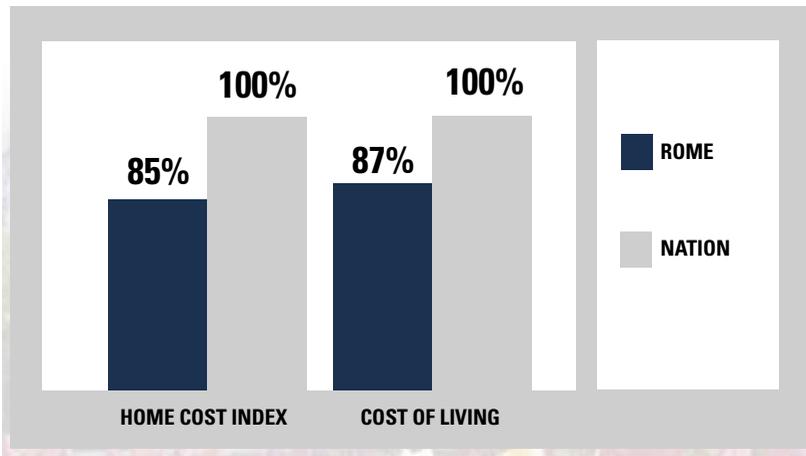
Oneida Indian Nation and Nation Enterprises	4,500
Mohawk Valley Network	2,945
St. Elizabeth Medical Center	1,929
Upstate Cerebral Palsy	1,423
Wal-Mart Distribution Center	1,400
ConMed Corporation	1,200
ACS	1,100
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.	976
Rome Memorial Hospital	966
Bank of America	900
Utica National Life Insurance Group	873
Air Force Research Lab Rome Research	863
Bank of New York	825
Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS)	692
Empire Aero	325

Contact us for a complete list at (315) 339-7643

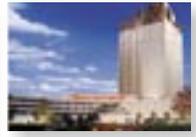
AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

	HIGH	LOW
Jan	29	13
Feb	31	14
Mar	39	23
Apr	55	34
May	66	44
June	77	54
July	81	59
Aug	79	57
Sept	71	50
Oct	61	40
Nov	46	32
Dec	33	18

It Costs Less to Live in Rome!



ROME IS JUST A SHORT DRIVE TO SYRACUSE, ROCHESTER AND NEW YORK CITY. AND JUST MINUTES AWAY IS THE TURNING STONE RESORT AND CASINO.



Location, Location, Location!



With no big-city delays or traffic congestion, you can drive to work and your coffee will still be hot when you get there. Rome is a medium-sized city in the historic Mohawk Valley region of Central New York. Situated along the Erie Canal, Rome presents itself as a strategic and national connecting point. An estimated total of one half of the population, personal income, business and sales accumulation are within a short drive. Located 45 minutes east of Syracuse, Rome is accessible by three NYS thruway exits, State Routes 365, 26, 46 and 49, and is home to the Oneida County Airport. From Rome you can be in one of the major metropolitan areas in North America, including New York City, Boston, Toronto, Montreal and Philadelphia within a five hour drive. Although not officially one of the natural wonders of the world, visitors to Niagara Falls, located only three hours from Rome, are sure to add it to their list of wonders.

An abundance of mountains, streams, lakes, fresh air, clean water, and beautiful skies surround the convenient location of Rome. As nature abounds, exploration and excitement are only a footstep away. Walking, bicycle, and nature trails lead to pristine waterfalls and gorgeous mountains in the summer before they turn into a winter wonderland. Snow transforms our area into an ideal haven for snowmobiles, ice fishing, tubing, skiing and snow-boarding.

Experience world class entertainment, gaming and dining during any season at the Turning Stone Resort & Casino located only ten minutes away. Marvel at the 1928 Capitol Theatre movie palace and take part in a variety of entertainment including the silent movies accompanied by the original Moeller theater pipe organ. No matter what your tastes or interests, rest assured there is something for everyone in Rome.

THINK MINUTES... NOT MILES!

	MILES	TIME
Syracuse	43	45 min.
Albany	108	1.5 hrs.
Rochester	124	2.5 hrs.
Buffalo	189	3 hrs.
Ottawa	200	4 hrs.
New York City	259	4 hrs.
Boston	275	4 hrs.
Toronto	283	4.5 hrs.
Philadelphia	284	4.5 hrs.
Montreal	319	4.75 hrs.
Cleveland	371	5.5 hrs.
Baltimore	373	6 hrs.
Pittsburgh	397	5.5 hrs.
Washington, DC	419	7 hrs.



Historic Treasures

Discover **FORT STANWIX NATIONAL MONUMENT** where the past is preserved to enrich our future. Located along the historic “Great Carry,” which enabled expansion to the west, Fort Stanwix was a strategic point during the American Revolutionary War. The American victory that took place at the Fort directly contributed to the defeat of the British at Saratoga in 1777. Fort visitors can experience life as it was through live demonstrations, artifacts and presentations both at the Fort and its visitors center - the Marinus Willett Collections Management and Education Center.

THE MARINUS WILLETT COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT AND EDUCATION CENTER embodies the mission of the National Park Service - to preserve our natural resources and provide an enjoyable educational experience for this and future generations. Within the Center, Fort Stanwix stores 485,000 artifacts and documents inside a state-of-the-art collection facility. Located adjacent to the Fort on North James Street, the Center’s unique exhibits help visitors explore the story of Fort Stanwix and the Mohawk Valley through the eyes of the people who lived in New York during the Revolutionary war.

ERIE CANAL VILLAGE is an outdoor living history museum. The Village is a reconstructed 19th century settlement on the site where the first shovel of earth was turned for the construction of the first Erie Canal in 1817. Visitors can relax and travel back into time on a narrow gauge steam train ride or a mule drawn packet boat cruise along the Canal.

THE ARSENAL HOUSE is a 190-year-old building that once served as the home of commanding officers of the US Arsenal from 1815-1873. Sixteen rooms with ten fireplaces, elaborate plaster cornices and ceiling medallions, hand-hewn beams held in place with wooden pegs and an incredible two and a half story open staircase are still intact. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Arsenal House, now under renovation, is one of Rome’s few examples of historic Federal style architecture.

MARINUS WILLETT VISITOR’S CENTER



MUST SEE HISTORIC PLACES

ERIE CANAL VILLAGE

FORT STANWIX

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

ROME SPORTS HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

ORISKANY BATTLEFIELD

ROME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SHAKO:WI CULTURAL CENTER

GENERAL HERKIMER’S HOUSE

ARESENAL HOUSE

A CLOSE UP VIEW OF FORT STANWIX,
OLD CITY HALL AND THE TOMB
OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER



More Interesting Places

THE ROME FIRE AND POLICE MEMORIAL PARK, located on the southwest corner of Black River Boulevard and East Court Street, was revitalized in recognition of the fifth anniversary of the horrific tragedies of 9/11.

The Fire and Police Departments worked with Rome Rotary to create a memorial site to honor those who lost their lives trying to protect and serve our country, and to honor and value the firefighters, police officers, and military personnel that do their job each day without question or hesitation. The Park has received national attention for its featured “Twin Towers” that stand in a reflecting pond shaped to represent the State of New York. The 14-foot illuminated towers are made of glass and send bubbling water toward the top to represent the firefighters who ascended the World Trade Center buildings. The water then spills back into the reflecting pond that is located behind the structure that showcases two sections of steel from Ground Zero. Features of the Park include a memorial wall; a restored “Street Box” fire alarm pull station and police call box; an antique hose cart; a bell; and a lighted kiosk featuring a mural by local artist Jane Taylor.

THE WEST ROME DRIVE-IN, located on Route 69 in Rome, is one of only 31 Drive-In movie theaters open for business in New York State. The Drive-In opened in 1951 as a single-screen, just seven years before the number of Drive-Ins in the United States reached a peak of 4,063.

The Drive-In has undergone many changes throughout its years including the addition of a second screen in 1985 providing movie-goers a choice of features, a new Dolby Stereo sound system, and numerous changes to the film projectors. These upgrades have resulted in a dramatic improvement to both picture and sound.

With more than 13 acres of land, the Drive-In is an ideal place for the Flea Market held each Sunday from May through September. For more information please visit www.westromedrivein.com or call (315) 336-9440. For information on the Flea Market call (315) 278-4257.

NORTH JAMES STREET IS ALIVE WITH NEW FACADES
LIKE JOANNE'S FLOWERS, HISTORY STILL PREVAILS
WITH OUR POPULAR REVERE MURAL AND THE OLD
DOWNTOWN DEPICTION ON WEST DOMINICK STREET.



Downtown Rome

Rome is a proud partner of the Rome Main Streets Alliance, affiliated with the National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Main Street Program. **The Main Streets Program is one of Rome's most influential and important initiatives designed to revitalize the City's downtown.** The program is led by volunteers from the community including businesses, local government, nonprofits and residents.

In 2002, the National Trust for Historic Preservation conducted a strategic assessment of Rome's downtown. Three Main Street Corridors were identified through the study – **EAST DOMINICK STREET, WEST DOMINICK STREET AND JAMES STREET.** Beginning with former Mayor Joseph Griffo, and continuing with our present Mayor James Brown, we are endeavoring to implement a proven four-point approach to revive the downtown area. A new video documentary entitled "Remembering... Rebuilding" tells the story of urban renewal and the redevelopment of the heart of the City.





Favorite Pastimes

ENTERTAINMENT, FESTIVALS, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION ARE A VALUABLE FEATURE OF LIFE IN THE CITY OF ROME. Many well anticipated festivals and events take place each year within the city in a variety of venues. Waterfront revitalization and trail development efforts are connecting the City to the historic Erie Canal creating an ever expanding cultural experience linked to nature. Rome's location in the Mohawk Valley also creates easy access to events like the New York State Fair in Syracuse, Remsen Barn Festival, Lilac Festival in Rochester and Tulip Festival in Albany to name a few.

ANNUAL FESTIVALS & EVENTS

- SK8 JAM** - February
- SPRING FLING** - April
- ROME HOME SHOW** - April
- FARMERS MARKET** - May - Oct on Fridays
- CITY GARAGE SALE** - June
- FESTIVAL ON THE ERIE** - June
- CYCLING ON THE ERIE** - July
- CAPITOL ICON** - Summer
- WHO LET THE DOGS OUT** - July
- COLONIAL DAYS** - July
- HONOR AMERICA DAYS** - July through August
- SUMMER IN THE SQUARE** - July through August
- DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK** - August
- YMCA 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT** - August
- CANALFEST** - August
- TASTE OF ROME** - September
- PUMPKIN FESTIVAL** - October
- HOLIDAY HOUSE** - November
- ROME FOR THE HOLIDAYS** - December
- CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING** - December

RECREATION & FUN

- Delta Lake State Park
- Utica-Rome Speedway
- Fort Rickey Children's Discovery Zoo
- Adirondack Scenic Railroad
- Woods Valley Ski Lodge
- Rome Country Club
- Peter Paul Recreation Park
- Rome Bark Park
- Turning Stone Casino & Resort
- Vernon Downs Racetrack and Casino



Fireworks accompanied the performance by The Syracuse Symphony Orchestra during Honor America Days.



Rome's Bark Park has been ranked 4th in the nation by Dog Fancy Magazine. Created by community volunteers, this is a great place to bring your pet for some agility training, companionship, fun and exercise.





Arts & Culture

THE CALIBER OF ARTS AND CULTURE IN THE CITY OF ROME PROVIDES A GREATER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR BOTH RESIDENTS AND VISITORS. The Capitol Theatre, located in the West Dominick Street Corridor, is a valuable anchor to the Rome Entertainment Arts Cultural and Historic District. Look outside the downtown corridors and you can also find the Rome Community Theater and Beck’s Grove Dinner Theater for year-round entertainment.



THE CAPITOL THEATRE
220 WEST DOMINICK STREET - (315) 337-6453
www.romecapitol.com

The Capitol Theatre remains the only building in Rome constructed for the specific purpose of exhibiting motion pictures. Although the Theatre received an Art Deco face-lift in 1939, the auditorium is configured exactly as it was in 1928, and much of the original decor remains.

Also still in place is the Theatre’s 3 manual, 7 rank, Moeller theater organ. Restored in 2002, the organ is used on a regular basis to accompany silent movies – drawing audiences from all over the world.



ROME HISTORICAL SOCIETY
200 CHURCH STREET - (315) 336-5870
www.romehistorical.com

The Rome Historical Society was founded in 1936 and is located in a former US Post Office. The society features a museum, the William E. Scripture Memorial Library, archives, artifacts and continually updated displays showcasing the history of Rome. Original documents from the Revolutionary War, Civil War, local businesses, people and the region are housed in a collection that boasts more than 10,000 historical textiles and samplers, maps, paintings, prints, photos, and early tools and artifacts specific to the region. Educational and public outreach programs are a few of the many ways that the Society educates the community through audiovisual and interactive programming.



ROME SPORTS HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM
5790 ROME - NEW LONDON ROAD - (315) 339-9038
www.when-in-rome.com

The Rome Sports Hall of Fame and Museum is known as “the only municipal Sports Hall of Fame with its own museum in New York State.” A non-profit organization dedicated to honoring and preserving the great sports achievements of Rome athletes, the Sports Hall of Fame features a racing wing and an all-sports wing. A library, pictures, trophies, uniforms and equipment keep the memories of past sporting heroes alive and well, providing visitors with a comprehensive look at the history of sports in Rome. Inductee plaques reveal the milestones and tribulations of 120 gifted Roman athletes that were talented enough to receive the honor of immortality in the Rome Sports Hall of Fame.

The modified racing car driven in competition by nine time NASCAR champion, Richie Evans is displayed at the Rome Sports Hall of Fame.



JERVIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
613 N. WASHINGTON STREET - (315) 336-4570
www.jervislibrary.org

Rome's Jervis Public Library opened on July 15, 1895 in the donated homestead of prominent nineteenth century engineer, John Bloomfield Jervis. The library's bylaws were drafted by Melville Dewey, the inventor of the famous Dewey Decimal System. Open seven days a week, Jervis Library is recognized as one of the most active in the Mid-York Library System, boasting 123,000 books along with a wide variety of magazines, newspapers, audio and video cassettes, DVDs, spoken word materials, computer software, and CD-ROMs, for total holdings of over 148,000 items. The library provides information, research resources, and education to an average of 800 people each day. In addition, Jervis Library sponsors numerous activities and events including adult lectures, author visits, book discussion series and programs for teens and children.



ROME ART & COMMUNITY CENTER
308 W. BLOOMFIELD STREET - (315) 336-1040
www.romeart.org

The Rome Art and Community Center (RACC) is a nonprofit multi-arts organization committed to fostering creativity, cultural awareness, and a strong community connection through a broad range of programming and services. Housed in the historic Carpenter House, a beautiful Tudor mansion, RACC is unlike any other arts organization in the area. Not only does the Center boast lovely period architecture and sprawling grounds, it is also home to three art galleries, modern art studios, performance spaces, and a unique ArtHouse Café. RACC offers a wide variety of programming including creative art classes, children's events, music and theater performances, a film series, art exhibitions, a national poetry contest, community events, and much more.



YMCA OF THE GREATER TRI-VALLEY
301 W. BLOOMFIELD STREET - (315) 336-3500
www.romeymca.org

The Rome YMCA has serviced the community for the past 135 years recently expanding its wings to offer additional locations throughout the greater tri-valley region. The facility offers a wide variety of programming for people of all ages including, aquatics, arts and humanities, child care, health and fitness, senior programs, sports, summer camp, teen programs and youth and family programs. The Rome YMCA has most recently been given recognition for their YMCA Center for the Creative Arts program (YCCA). The program educates students about the history of jazz and has created an award winning jazz ensemble and wind ensemble that continue to amaze their audiences. The YCCA that was modeled after the New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts has now become a model for YMCA's throughout the nation.



Rome Memorial Hospital

Rome Memorial Hospital began as a small “cottage” hospital in 1884 and served 19 patients during its first year of operation. Today, the newly expanded private community hospital cares for more than 6,000 patients a year in its 129 acute care beds and its skilled nursing facility is home to 80 residents. Quality care and critical services are offered by experienced professionals 24 hours a day. JCAHO – the nation’s most respected healthcare accrediting body recently awarded Rome Memorial Hospital a score of 96 that puts them in the top 16% of hospitals in the nation.

Rome Memorial Hospital provides traditional hospital services including emergency, general medical/surgical, pediatric, obstetric, and intensive care. With more than \$25 million invested over the past ten years to improve the facility, Rome Memorial Hospital recently opened a new Energy Center followed by the new 10,500 square foot Emergency Department designed to offer a greater quality of care.

THE HOSPITAL ALSO PROVIDES A BROAD RANGE OF DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT SERVICES INCLUDING:

- Medical Imaging including ultrasound, CT scan, nuclear medicine, mammography, general x-ray and access to Magnetic Resonance Imaging. They also have six satellite locations for general x-ray services.

- Physical Therapy featuring a modern 6,000 sq. ft. facility led by McKenzie Diplomat.

- Cardiopulmonary Services including respiratory therapy, echocardiography, EKG/EEG, pulmonary function, cardiac stress testing and Holter monitoring.

- Laboratory Services including full diagnostic laboratory with six satellite drawing stations for patient convenience.

- Radiation Therapy

- Nutrition Counseling

- Occupational & Speech Therapy

- Pain Management Clinic

- Sleep Disorders Center

- Substance Abuse Counseling



1500 N. JAMES STREET
ROME, NY, 13440
phone (315) 338-7000 fax (315) 338-7695
www.romehospital.org



Education

HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND IN THE MOHAWK VALLEY WHERE THERE ARE MORE COLLEGE STUDENTS PER CAPITA THAN IN ANY OTHER REGION IN THE NATION.

Several colleges and universities that offer exceptional educational opportunities lie within a two hour radius of Rome. A partnership between Empire Aero Center and Mohawk Valley Community College has created the unique and valuable Airframe & Powerplant program that offers hands on training at Griffiss Business and Technology Park. Students of the A&P program graduate as state-of-the-art technicians who are certified and ready to enter the workforce with companies like Empire Aero, the aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul facility, located right at Griffiss Park.

K-12 EDUCATION

Numerous elementary schools service the area including eight elementary schools, one upper elementary school, one middle school, one high school and the New York State School for the Deaf. Rome Catholic School offers a private schooling option for K-12. Rome's new \$45 million public high school, Rome Free Academy, teaches the best of the past while tackling the educational challenges of future technology. Sports programs, Cyber Security, JROTC and CAP programs are just a few of the progressive learning opportunities Rome schools offer. Our educational system aims to cultivate a successful, thriving workforce through advanced education in the area.

AREA COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Syracuse University	Clarkson University
Colgate University	Binghamton University
Mohawk Valley Community College	Rensselaer
Utica College	Union College
Utica School of Commerce	St. Lawrence University
SUNY Institute of Technology	Le Moyne College
SUNY Upstate Medical University	Rochester Institute of Technology
SUNY Morrisville	Siena College
Pratt Institute at Munson-Williams Proctor	University at Albany
Cornell University	Nazareth College
Herkimer County Community College	Onondaga Community College
Hamilton College	BOCES

NIP makes a significant difference



BEFORE



AFTER

Want to Live in Rome?

HOME PROGRAM

The HOME program assists income eligible families to achieve the “American Dream” and own their own home. Applicants are eligible for up to \$25,000 in assistance to purchase or rehabilitate homes located within the City limits of Rome.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The City of Rome offers loan assistance to income eligible homeowners for improvements that address code violations and weatherization. Depending on income, applicants may be eligible for up to \$20,000 in assistance. If residency is maintained for 7 years, the loan is forgiven.

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Sidewalk Improvement Program was initiated in 2002 to financially partner with property owners to correct deteriorated residential sidewalk conditions. The program is open to all properties classified as residential, whether owner-occupied or not. Under the program, property owners are reimbursed \$3.00 per square foot, up to a maximum of \$1000 for all mainline sidewalks and \$1500 for all corner properties.

RAMPS AND RAILS

The Ramps and Rails Program helps to meet the needs of people who have physical restrictions and are in need of an exterior ramp and/or adaptive railing at their home. The program is for Rome residents only and works to unite our local community in an effort to help individuals continue to be independent.

NEW CONSTRUCTION TAX EXEMPTION

In December 2004, the City of Rome and the State of New York signed a bill to offer tax exemptions for new construction. The new law, 485-i under the New York State Real Property Tax Law, provides a real property tax exemption on City taxes to property owners who construct and occupy new structures on their property after April 1, 2004. The exemption is equal to 50% of the increase in the assessed value of the property for the first year, decreased 5% per year for an additional 9 years.

ADDITIONAL TAX EXEMPTIONS

STAR PROGRAM

SENIOR CITIZENS

ENHANCED STAR PROGRAM

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

TEMPORARY GREENHOUSES

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL

VETERAN'S EXEMPTIONS

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY

BUSINESS INVESTMENT EXEMPTION

BUSINESS INVESTMENT EXEMPTION IN AN EMPIRE ZONE

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION



Want to do Business in Rome?

It's beautiful to do business in Rome for these businesses! From left to right: Big Daddy's Sub Shop, Joanne's Flower and Gift Studio, Lynn's Closets and Margy's Daily Bakery.

COMMERCIAL FAÇADE PROGRAM

The City provides assistance to businesses and property owners in targeted business district areas for improvements to the exterior of their buildings. Depending on the location of the property, applicants could be eligible for up to \$25,000 in assistance.

ROME ENTREPRENEUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (REAP)

The focus of the REAP program is to assist new microenterprises (businesses with one to five employees, including the owner), with grant funding for start-up costs including: property acquisition or rent; advertising and/or marketing; pre-approved site improvements; purchase of machinery and equipment; utilities; and business consulting, training and technical assistance. Microenterprises located along one of the City's downtown Main Streets Corridors are eligible to receive up to \$7,000 in potential funding. Businesses located outside the Corridors, but within City limits, may be eligible for \$3,000 in assistance. Applicants are required to submit a valid business plan and agree to provide a minimum 25% match in start-up project costs.

EMPIRE ZONES PROGRAM

The Empire Zones Program is a vital component of Governor Eliot Spitzer's effort to continue to revitalize and expand New York's economy. Empire Zones (formerly called Economic Development Zones) are geographically defined areas where businesses have access to vacant land, existing industrial and commercial infrastructure, a skilled workforce and abundant resources such as power and water supplies. The Empire Zones are particularly attractive in that they offer numerous tax incentives for qualifying businesses. Incentives include the following:

QEZE Sales Tax Exemptions
QEZE Credit for Real Property Taxes
QEZE Tax Reduction Credit
EZ Wage Tax Credit
EZ Investment Tax and Employment Incentive Credits

New Business Refund
Utility Rate Savings
Zone Capital Credit
Real Property Tax Abatement
Sales Tax Refund or Credit



The Victorian House on North James Street was one of many façade and streetscape improvements in the Main Streets Corridors.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON ANY OF THESE PROGRAMS
PLEASE CONTACT (315) 339-7643.**



Did You Know?

The Rome area has been named...

2007	Named one of the top 25 best places to live in the nation by Country Home 2007 Best Green Places Report
2007	Named Tree City USA consecutively since 2003
2006	Rome's Bark Park Named 4th in America by Dog Fancy Magazine and Novartis
2005	Voted Farmers Insurance Group's 19th Most Secure City
2005	Voted 7th Best Golf City in America by Golf Digest
2004	Voted Farmers Insurance Group's 24th Most Secure City
2004	Named 21st in the Top 25 Places to do Business in America by Inc. Magazine
2002	Named All America City Finalist
2002	Named New York State Quality Community





Rome Facts



Rome was home to the 30th anniversary of Woodstock in 1999.

Named 3rd least stressful place to live in America as rated by Bert Sperling's BestPlaces.net.



Rome was once known as the "Copper City" for its manufacturing of copper products.

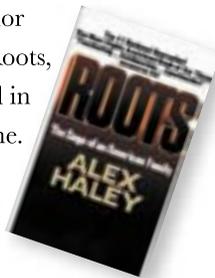
In 1851, Jesse Williams inaugurated the system of making cheese from sweet milk creating the first cheese factory in Rome, now highlighted at the Erie Canal Village.

Francis Bellamy, author of the Pledge of Allegiance, lived and is buried in Rome, NY.



John Dove, a Rome native, was instrumental in the development of the CD-Rom technology.

Alex Haley, author of Roots, lived in Rome.



Nora's Candyland in Rome is home to the unique, world famous Turkey Joints.

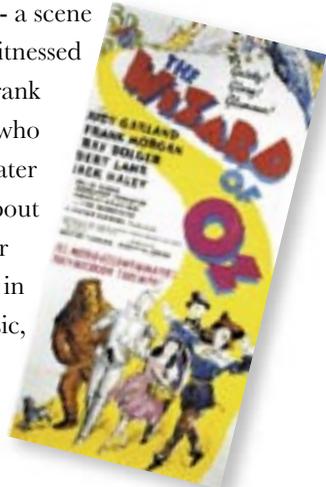


Dr. Frank Potter invented the hand telephone in 1905 and moved to Rome to open a factory to manufacture his invention.



The first shovel of dirt was turned in Rome for the original Erie Canal on July 4, 1817.

According to "The Encyclopedia of New York" in 1871, Prof. C.C. Coe of Rome landed his hot air balloon in downtown Syracuse's Clinton Square - a scene likely witnessed by L. Frank Baum, who would later write about a similar episode in his classic, "The Wizard of Oz".





Contacts

CITY OF ROME

James F. Brown, Mayor
198 N. Washington Street
Rome, NY 13440
(315) 339-7676
www.romenewyork.com

ROME AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

William Guglielmo, President
139 W. Dominick Street
Rome, NY 13440
(315) 337-1700
www.romechamber.com

ONEIDA COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

Paul Ziegler, Director
Exit 31, Interstate 90
PO Box 551, Utica, NY 13502
(800) 426-3132
www.oneidacountycvb.com

ROME CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Offices
112 E. Thomas Street
Rome, NY 13440
(315) 338-6532
www.romecsd.org

MOHAWK VALLEY EDGE/RIDC

Steve DiMeo, President
153 Brooks Road
Griffiss Business & Technology Park
Rome, NY 13441
(315) 338-0393
www.mvedge.org

ROME WELCOME COMMITTEE

Debbie Adamo, Organizer
800 N. Black River Boulevard
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